



China backs nuclear-free Mideast

CAIRO (AP) — Chinese Defense Minister Qia Jiwu met Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak Tuesday and told him his country supported his proposal to ban nuclear weapons in the Middle East. Egyptian Defense Minister Yousaf Said Alaa, who had just returned from a one-hour meeting between Qia and Mubarak, said China backed Egypt's call in its proposal to ban nuclear weapons in the Middle East and would continue China's support. China provided Egypt with spare parts for its Soviet aircraft after a rift in 1972 between Cairo and Moscow. It later supplied Cairo with Shenyang aircraft. Chinese-built MSG 100 and 1100 Alouette III helicopters and produces spare parts. Abu Taleb and Qia expressed satisfaction with bilateral relations following their first round of talks. "My talks with Maj. Gen. Abu Taleb were honest and friendly and we exchanged views on all issues that are of interest to us," the Chinese minister said.

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King to visit Libya soon

AMMAN (J.T.) — Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi has extended an invitation to His Majesty King Hussein to visit Libya, and the King has promised to pay the visit as soon as possible, Prime Minister Minder Badran said Tuesday. Speaking to reporters following the first meeting of the Lower House of Parliament's extraordinary session, Badran said that Jordan will soon name its ambassador to Tripoli. Jordan decided to restore diplomatic ties with Libya before the Amman Arab summit of November 1987, but it was only earlier this year that the two countries made arrangements for the reopening of embassies, closed since 1984. Badran also told reporters the Joint Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee will convene this month.

Four sentenced to death in Egypt

CAIRO (AP) — A Cairo criminal court Tuesday sentenced four Muslim fundamentalists to death for killing a teenager after trying him for alleged immoral behaviour. The fundamentalists lured the 14-year-old boy to the home of one of them, tied him with a robe then set up a religious tribunal. They strangled him after a summary trial then buried him in a hole at a graveyard in a Cairo suburb on June 20 last year.

Sihanouk, Hun Sen urge ceasefire

TOKYO (R) — Leaders of Cambodia's two warring sides signed a joint communiqué in Tokyo Tuesday calling for a voluntary ceasefire and the reconvening of the Paris-based international conference on Cambodia. Prime Minister Hun Sen of the Vietnamese-backed Phnom Penh government and Prince Norodom Sihanouk, nominal leader of the three-party guerrilla coalition, signed the document. Cambodian parties to the 11-year civil war converged on Tokyo last weekend for a two-day peace conference, saying they expected a formal ceasefire pact. Hopes were shattered when the Communist Khmer Rouge, Sihanouk's nominal ally, boycotted the talks.

Kuwait welcomes Iraq-Iran contacts

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait, which was on the fringes of the 1980-88 Iraq-Iran war, welcomed Tuesday the recent exchange of messages between the Baghdad and Tehran leaderships. "We hope that the day will come when the two presidents meet to settle all their problems and when peace and stability prevail in the Arab Gulf region," Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah told reporters. A resumption of flights by Kuwait Airways, the national carrier, to Tehran was expected soon.

Two Christians join Hrawi cabinet

BEIRUT (R) — Two Christian politicians have decided to end a six-month boycott and join Lebanon's "national reconciliation" government, official sources said Tuesday. They said George Saadeh and Michel Sassis told President Elias Hrawi and Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss they would take up their ministerial posts immediately. Saadeh, minister of post and telecommunication, is a Maronite Christian and president of the largest Christian political party, the Falange. Sassis, deputy prime minister and minister of labour, is a Greek Orthodox and member of the National Liberal Party.

Fundamentalists warn Algerian army

ALGERIA (AP) — Islamic fundamentalists predict a landslide victory next week in nationwide local elections and have warned the army not to interfere with the outcome of Algeria's first multiparty balloting. Abassi Madani, president of the Islamic Salvation Front, told an estimated 100,000 supporters at a rally Monday night that his party — the main opposition to the ruling National Liberation Front — would win 75 per cent of the votes.

King assails U.S. veto, urges 'ethical' policy

American delegation affirms no peace without independent Palestinian state

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday assailed the recent American veto of a U.N. Security Council resolution calling for the dispatch of a fact-finding mission to the Israeli-occupied territories and said Washington should adopt an "ethical and positive" stand towards the Arab-Israeli conflict.

"It is difficult not only for us in Jordan but for everyone in the Arab World to understand why the United States adopted such a position," the King told a group of Americans in the first official Jordanian statement on the American veto last week.

Members of the delegation, on "mission for a just solution in the Middle East," quoted the King as saying that the U.S., particularly in view of the international changes, has a "moral responsibility to act fairly if it is to assume the role that it can play in bringing peace to the Middle East and to contribute to world peace in general."

"The King said the veto was a serious setback to peace efforts and that he was more than disappointed with the American position," said John Anderson, a presidential candidate in 1980 and a member of the delegation.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the King also expressed regret over Israel's refusal to withdraw from the occupied Arab territories. "This extreme Israeli position fosters extremism on the other side, thus thwarting all hopes placed on efforts for peace in the region," the King said.

The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), the King said, "has done all that it was asked to do to reach a just and durable peace; yet Israel is insisting on its extreme position...."

On Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel, the King was quoted as saying that the Arab World "respects the right of people to emigrate and freedom of travel and stay provided such rights are not granted at the expense of the human rights of other people."

The King explained that the massive wave of Soviet Jewish immigrants to Israel not only undermines efforts for peace in the Middle East but also threatens the eviction of the Palestinian people living in the occupied territories.

The delegation met with several Palestinian leaders, including Faisal Al Husseini and Sari Nusseibeh who were among a group of Palestinians who were staging a hunger-strike demanding international protections for the Palestinian people living in the occupied territories as well as Mikhat Al Massri and Saeed Kamali, and visited refugee camps and towns in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

While both Israeli and Palestinian leaders the delegation met discussed responsibility for the stalled peace process, the team's statement issued in Jerusalem pinned greater blame on Israel and urged the Jewish state to accept the PLO as a negotiator in peace talks.

"The Israeli position is totally unrealistic," Percy reiterated the position in an interview with the Jordan Times Tuesday. "The PLO is the internationally accepted representative of the Palestinian people, and Israel has to accept this reality and break the deadlock."

"Even the U.S. and the Soviet Union — one time enemies who would not talk to each other — have now resorted to dialogue to settle their problems, and I do not see any logic in Israel's continued rejection of any deal with the PLO," he said.

"The main message that all Palestinians we met had to give us was that Israel has to negotiate with the PLO, and without the PLO there can be no peace," said Nissim Matar, an American of Arab origin.

Anderson said he would seek to "tell the real story" of the Palestinian problem to the American public and policymakers "through my writings, my speeches and my contacts with congressmen when I get back home."

He accused the Israeli occupation authorities of "wholesale violations of human and civil rights (of the Palestinian people) in the occupied territories" and said that "I do not believe the American public is aware of the

Continued on page 3)

Shamir edges towards hardline government

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, struggling to end a political crisis, moved Tuesday towards forming a hardline government repugnant to himself, Washington and most Israelis.

The caretaker prime minister, leader of the right-wing Likud party, vowed to forge a narrow coalition by a Thursday deadline.

Political sources said such a coalition would reject U.S. proposals for Israeli-Palestinian peace talks which led to the breakup of his "unity" government alliance with the Labour Party 82 days ago.

"Up to the last minute, we will keep negotiating with the small parties to meet the deadline," said Yossi Ahimeir, chief of the prime minister's bureau.

Unable to arrange another coalition with Labour, Shamir will enlist the support of far-right parties favouring massive Jewish settlement in the occupied territories and harder steps to quash the Palestinian revolt.

Shamir, accused of blocking peace and threatening with increasing isolation at a time when Israel needs world support to absorb hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jewish immigrants, would turn to his right if he could win back labour.

"The prime minister has always been a believer in the idea of a national unity government... to our dismay what was called the national unity government became a national disunity government," Ahimeir told Israel Radio.

Labour toppled the government in March over Shamir's refusal to accept Washington's proposals for the first talks between Israel and Palestinians, party leaders said they would rejoin a Shamir government only

if he reconsidered entering such talks.

"As far as I know, the main effort of Likud is to form a narrow government. I know of no approach to the Labour Party on the subject of a unity government," former Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin of Labour told the radio.

A senior government official, dismissing rumours of another Likud-Labour coalition, said: "You think they like each other more than they did before?"

President Chaim Herzog summoned Shamir to lunch Tuesday but sides to both men called the meeting routine. By law Shamir has until Thursday to report to Herzog on his efforts to form a government. Shamir has said he would present the government to the prime minister's bureau.

Israeli commentators warned Shamir against bowing to demands of politicians such as Raviv Zeevi, whose far-right Moleid party has called for the expulsion of all Arabs under Israeli rule.

Political analyst Haim Crystal said in the *Ha'aretz* newspaper that Shamir would feel like an outcast.

"It's a government in which a pragmatic hawk like himself will feel like a leftist," he wrote.

Shamir needs the support of Zeevi's two-man faction to ensure a bare 61-59 vote of confidence in parliament.

"The moment Shamir tries to carry out this very initiative he presented to the U.S. president and which won encouragement from Moscow, Cairo and moderate Palestinians, Zeevi will vote against him and bring down his government," said an editorial in the *Yediot Achronot*, the country's largest circulation newspaper.

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GCC criticises U.S. veto of U.N. mission

Riyadh (AP) — Oman's foreign minister, Yousef Ibn Alawi, Tuesday called on the United States to develop a more humane approach to the Palestinian problem.

"We know that the United States is exerting efforts to solve the (Arab-Israeli) problem in a just manner, but we hope that it will look at the Palestinian case in a humanitarian way."

Dispatching an international commission to the Israeli-occupied Arab territories would be "a humanitarian mission and the Arab states take this seriously," he said.

Alawi made the statement to reporters after he and his counterparts in the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) expressed their "deep regret" at the U.S. veto of a U.N. Security Council resolution last week.

The resolution proposed sending a fact-finding commission to probe the conditions of the Palestinians under Israeli occupation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The ministers of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates and the chairman Oman, issued a communiqué early Tuesday.

It condemned the "inhuman Zionist policy that aims at annihilating the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and to an independent Palestinian state, and the resort to violence and oppression in face of the determination of these people to end the (Israeli) occupation."

The communiqué renewed support for the Palestinian people, who are in the third year of an uprising or intifada in the occupied territories, "until they are able to reach a solution that fulfills their aspirations."

The GCC countries are

pledged to use their close ties with the United States and other Western powers to help push an Arab-Israeli settlement that takes into account the Arab demands.

GCC leaders were at last week's Iraq-hosted summit conference of the 21-member Arab League, where the United States was held responsible for Israeli intransigence on the Middle East peacekeeping process because of its moral and material support to the Jewish state.

The hardline stance of the government of Yitzhak Shamir, and the government crisis in Israel, have deadlocked the initiative of U.S. Secretary of State James Baker to arrange a peace dialogue between the Israelis and the Palestinians.

Saudi Arabia, the dominant power in the GCC alliance, recently hosted Britain's Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd and urged European efforts to help Washington push through the peacekeeping process, diplomatic sources said.

The GCC ministers also discussed efforts to help turn a nearly 2-year-old ceasefire between Iraq and Iran into a lasting peace. The communiqué praised Iraqi President Saddam Hussein for initiating direct messages with his Iranian counterpart Hashemi Rafsanjani.

The messages reportedly included a proposal for a summit between the belligerents, who waged an eight-year war until August 1988.

"The Iranian positive response would help provide the propitious atmosphere for starting the direct

peace talks," said the communiqué.

It pledged support for the U.N. Secretary-General in full implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598, which laid the basis for Iraq-Iran peace.

The GCC communiqué urged a Saudi-led, three-man Arab panel on Lebanon, which also includes Morocco and Algeria, to pursue its efforts to bring peace to Lebanon.

It also praised the recent merger of North and South Yemen, and announced a decision to start official talks with the European Community on developing a trade pact between the two blocs.

Kuwait Monday officially expressed its disappointment over the U.S. veto of the U.N. Security Council resolution.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said Kuwait's stance was relayed by the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sand Al Osaimi to the U.S. Ambassador Wilson Nathaniel Howell who was summoned to the Foreign Ministry for the purpose.

The spokesman said Osaimi expressed Kuwait's "extreme regret and disappointment over the U.S. vetoing of the resolution because such an attitude bars the Palestinian human rights in the occupied Arab territories and at the same time encourages Israel to go ahead with its oppressive policy against the Palestinian people," the spokesman said.

Osaimi also pointed out that "the recurrent use of the veto power by the United States against the Palestinian people will affect its ability to play a key role in the Middle East peace process." The statements were circulated by the official Kuwait News Agency (KUNA).

Top aide warns Israel on Soviet immigration

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel should heed Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's threat to stop the flow of Jewish immigrants if they are settled in disputed areas, a top Israeli immigration official says.

Gorbachev holds the Jews. We do not have to erect obstacles in his path," Simcha Dinitz, chairman of the semi-official Jewish Agency, said in remarks published in Israeli newspapers Tuesday.

The remarks contrasted with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's flat rejection of Gorbachev's warning at a Washington summit that Moscow would consider halting the influx unless immigrants were barred from occupied Arab lands.

"There is nothing more important now than to save the Jews and bring them home. Any other considerations that could conceivably interfere with this objective must be set aside," Dinitz said.

"The government has to set its own policy but it should be done done," said Dinitz, a dovish Labour Party member.

Shamir, head of the hardline Likud Party, denied Israel had a policy of settling newcomers in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. But Israelis receive incentives to settle there, and housing costs are considerably cheaper than elsewhere.

Dinitz said Gorbachev was bowing to pressure from the Arab World, already opposed to the 70,000 Jews living in settlements among the 1.75 million Palestinians of the Arab territories occupied in the 1967 Middle East war.

Israel expects up to 250,000 Soviet Jews this year, Dinitz said only 285 of the 49,000 Soviet arrivals since April 1989 — or 0.5 per cent — had moved to the Arab territories.

Soviet Jews who choose to settle in the occupied areas are not entitled to an \$11,000 stipend from the Jewish Agency. Instead they get help from the Israeli government.

The Jewish Agency, for example, does not spend one cent on settlements in the territories," Dinitz said.

Shamir said Monday that Israel would not prevent Soviet Jews from settling in the occupied Arab territories.

The Jewish Agency raises funds abroad and takes charge of bringing immigrants to Israel.

"Our budget is based on 70,000 immigrants this year and this is no longer the reality. We are asking the United Jewish Appeal, (the main U.S. money source) to increase money for absorption," agency media adviser Guri Grossman told Reuters.

timers have been greeted with rapturous applause, ululating women and cries of "Allahu Akbar" (God is Great).

But the limits of their appeal were graphically illustrated in the Algiers district of Hussein Dey Sunday night where the FIS gained wide support among down-and-out youth hit hard by the economic crisis of the 1980s.

To attract local youth, the local FIS section sponsored a competition of neighbourhood football teams and distributed prizes after a speech by Merbah.

But once the prizes were in their hands, the youth began to shout, "FIS, FIS, (FIS leader) Abbasi Madani."

Several hundred youths, some of them too young to vote, marched down the main street to the local FIS headquarters shouting, "FIS assassins" — a reference to army intervention in October 1988 that killed scores of rioting youth.

'Conspiracy of silence'

An Algerian opposition leader Sunday denounced what he called a "conspiracy of silence" by the state-run media against a march by tens of thousands of his supporters in central Algiers last Thursday.

Hocine Ait Ahmad, leader of the Socialist Forces Front (SFP), told a news conference lack of coverage of the march showed the limits of Algeria's emerging multi-party democracy.

"Hundreds of thousands of men and women came and they were ignored ... a democracy without free information, without equal treatment of political movements, is not a democracy," he said.

The FIS media say the old

Greece frees U.K. driver

PATRAS, Greece (R) — A Greek tribunal dropped all charges Tuesday against British lorry driver Paul Ashwell, accused of transporting parts for an Iraqi supergun.

The three-judge tribunal cleared Mr. Ashwell of all charges after ruling that he did not know what he was carrying on his truck," prosecutor Antonis Mitis told Reuters.

Ashwell, 26, from Northampton, England, was arrested on April 20 in this western port. His truck was laden with a 29-ton steel pipe which Greek authorities said was bound for Iraq as part of massive cannon.

It also wants Saudi Arabia to allow the pilgrims to hold political rallies.

But Greece still hopes for better ties, he said. "We are ready. We have this political will. We sincerely call on Turkey to make

40,000 children killed in Lebanon civil war

BEIRUT (AP) — The Lebanon representative of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) said Tuesday 40,000 children have been killed in Lebanon's 15-year-old civil war.

Andre Roberfroid, a Belgian, pleaded with leaders of the various warring factions in Lebanon to "please accept to draw the lines that will guarantee such protection to your children."

Roberfroid made the appeal in a statement he read at the United Nations Information Centre in mainly Muslim west Beirut on the occasion of the "International Day of Children Victims of Aggression."

"In this country, in 15 years of war, less than 40,000 children have been killed, many more

wounded, handicapped or crippled," he said.

The civil war, which broke out in 1975, has killed at least 150,000 people, by police count, and inflicted severe damage to the nation's economy.

Roberfroid also said "thousands of children have lost their parents, more lost their houses... and thousands of school

days have been lost, hundreds of schools have been destroyed or damaged."

"Fifteen years is the age at which childhood ends as agreed in the newly adopted international convention on human rights of the child."

"This means that one complete

generation of children in Lebanon has been actually living all its

child life in an environment of war and aggression," the UNICEF representative explained.

He said the situation of children in Lebanon was "unacceptable, unbearable, inhuman."

"Again I repeat to all who have

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Potash firm studies expansion feasibility

AMMAN (J.T.) — A feasibility study for expanding the operations of the Arab Potash Company (APC) near the southern tip of the Dead Sea is underway and is scheduled to be completed by the end of 1990, according to Major Saadoun, deputy managing director for APC's technical division.

The feasibility study is being conducted by a major international consultancy firm and is designed to boost the APC's production capacity by 400,000 tonnes annually," Saadoun said.

He said that once the study had been completed work on the \$6 million project could start, but would not be finalised before 1994.

"The present production capacity now stands at 1.4 million tonnes, but the expansion scheme will boost this figure to 1.8 million tonnes," according to Saadoun.

APC is shared by Jordan, which owns 54 per cent of the capital, and Kuwait, Libya, Saudi Arabia and the Islamic Development Bank.

PSD outlines procedures for visits to W. Bank

AMMAN (Petra) — The summer visits programme for West Bankers and Gazans will commence as of Monday, 13 May, according to Public Security Department (PSD) officials.

The PSD's Aliens and Borders Department director, Brigadier Abdil Hamid Rusheid, was quoted as saying by the Arabic daily Al Dustour that registration centres would start functioning as of Saturday. Actual booking starts Monday, 13 May.

To facilitate the registration and booking process, Brig. Rusheid said, the department has established registration centres in the various governorates.

Arwa Bint Al Hareth registration centre in Jabal Amman has been assigned for travellers to Jerusalem and Hebron areas, while Aisha Umm Al Mumineen school on Jabal Hussein was assigned for the registration of Gazans; Al Hussein school in Jabal Hussein was assigned for registration of citizens from Nabid.

Jordan gets EC grant for livestock

AMMAN (J.T.) — The European community (EC) is to provide the Ministry of Agriculture in Jordan with a grant totalling JD 282,000 to provide high quality artificial insemination for the country's 30,000 cattle and dairy herd, and to upgrade reproductive diseases control and monitoring, according to an agreement signed here Tuesday.

The agreement is in implementation of the third financial and technical protocol signed earlier by EC and Jordan, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The EC project will address problems facing Jordan's artificial insemination facilities, particularly the lack of liquid nitrogen, storage facilities, properly equipped vehicles, training in insemination techniques and reproductive disease control methods and monitoring.

The two-year support services

project is expected to enhance cattle quality and quantity and milk and meat production.

According to Petra, the programme entails providing training not only to cattle breeders but also to technicians and veterinarians working for the Ministry of Agriculture. It said that altogether 10 speciality equipped vehicles to help with the artificial insemination procedures will be provided by the EC under the agreement.

Last August, in Brussels the EC gave the go-ahead for the grant which is hoped to help Jordan increase its production of lean meat.

The agreement Tuesday was signed by Minister of Planning Awani Al Mastri and EC head of delegation Christian Falkowski in the presence of senior officials from the ministry and the EC delegation in Jordan.

The ambassador praised the Jordanian-Chinese relations and said they were developing continuously at all levels.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

King congratulates Sweden

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday sent a congratulatory cable to King Carl Gustav of Sweden, congratulating him in his own name and on behalf of Jordan's people and government on Sweden's national day. The King expressed hope for continued cooperation between the two countries.

IDB grants loans for industrial projects

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB) board of directors approved granting five loans worth JD 610,000 to finance several industrial projects. Four of the loans are for existing industries and the fifth for a new project that will produce cotton towels and clothes. The number of loans granted by the IDB since the beginning of 1990 stands at 40 loans worth JD 6,548 million, of which 32 loans worth JD 4,843 million went to industrial projects and 8 worth JD 1,45 million to touristic projects.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- Exhibition of paintings and sculptures by five Jordanian artists at Abdil Hameed Shoman Foundation (10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.).
- Art exhibition by Dara Khalek and Lameh Khalek at the Royal Cultural Centre — 6:00 p.m.
- Exhibition of paintings by Mohammad Al Barberi at Yarmouk University.
- Exhibition of products of the Jordan University of Science and Technology engineering workshops displaying equipment used in scientific labs.

LECTURES

- Lecture, in Arabic, on "The Economic Situation in Jordan" by Waleed Al Shater and Munir Hamarsheh at the Royal Cultural Centre — 6:00 p.m.
- Lecture, in French, on "Charles Nodier" by Noel Favreliere at the French Cultural Centre — 6:00 p.m.

Jordan Times
Tel: 667171-6

Jordan plans to host conference on tourism

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Tourism Abdul Karim Al Kababiti Tuesday said that the ministry is pursuing efforts to convene an international conference on tourism in Jordan, which, he said, would be held under the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein in late September or early October.

In an interview with Al Dustour Arabic daily, Kababiti underlined the importance of such a conference, saying it would help Jordan to occupy a prominent status on the international tourism map.

The minister said that the conference idea surfaced after the establishment of a special body charged with promoting tourism in the country and after adopting a new method for the promotion of tourism in Jordan at international level.

The method is based on identifying two European countries to launch intensive tourism marketing in Jordan and then concentrating on two Arab Gulf states to do the same.

Kababiti pointed out that Jerash festival had been found to be one of the best means for marketing Jordan. He said that Jerash festival, which will be held next month, is one of the cultural landmarks at both the international and regional levels because of the host of cultural and tourist activities it includes.

Kababiti said that investment in tourism in Jordan has become an attractive opportunity, given the changing circumstances and the actual exchange rate of the local currency.

China blames Israel for peace stalemate

AMMAN (Petra) — The Chinese ambassador to Jordan Tuesday said that the Soviet Jewish immigration to the occupied Arab territories constitutes a breach of the international laws and places an obstacle in the face of achieving a just and durable peace in the Middle East.

Addressing a symposium on Jordanian-Chinese relations, held at the Royal Cultural Centre, the ambassador said that a just solution to the Middle East can be achieved through holding an international peace conference under the auspices of the United Nations, attended by the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council and the parties involved in the conflict.

A statement here Tuesday said that Jordan will be represented at the meeting by Dr. Ahmad Qatani, director-general of the Foreign Ministry's Department of Palestinian Affairs.

The week-long meeting will review UNRWA's various activities in its fields of operations, emergency programmes and UNRWA's annual budget.

He said that holding direct dialogue between the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Israel, an Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories as well as stopping all acts of repression against Arab citizens in the occupied territories can also contribute to achieving the long-sought peace.

He talked about the changing international situation, and described the arm race between the two superpowers and regional conflicts as grave threats to world peace and stability.

The ambassador praised the Jordanian-Chinese relations and said they were developing continuously at all levels.



Abdul Karim Al Kababiti

Kababiti blamed the high exchange rate of the Jordanian dinar as one of the reasons for not investing in this sector for the past years. He voiced hope that the promotion efforts made by both the private and public sectors in Jordan would pay off during the next few years.

On Monday, a delegation representing the Italian media arrived in Jordan for visits to touristic and historic sites in the Kingdom. The 300-person delegation will visit Jerash, the Dead Sea, Madaba, Jebel Siyaha, Karak and Petra.

Italy comes in the second place in terms of number of tourists visiting the Kingdom. The number of Italian tourists witnessed an increase by 72 per cent in the year 1989 compared to 1988. The number of Italian tourists is expected to rise as a result of the marketing efforts of the Ministry of Tourism.

UNRWA members to meet in Vienna

AMMAN (J.T.) — The advisory commission of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) is to open its annual meeting in Vienna Wednesday with the participation of all 10 commission members, including Jordan.

A statement here Tuesday said that Jordan will be represented at the meeting by Dr. Ahmad Qatani, director-general of the Foreign Ministry's Department of Palestinian Affairs.

The week-long meeting will review UNRWA's various activities in its fields of operations, emergency programmes and UNRWA's annual budget.

UNRWA is a subsidiary organisation of the United Nations General Assembly which began operations in May 1950. It employs an international and Palestinian staff in its drive to provide services to the refugees.

UNRWA's General Commissioner Giorgio Giacomelli is assisted by the 10 commission members representing Belgium, Egypt, France, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States.

King assails U.S. veto

(Continued from page 1)
Jordan's former senator and head of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Senate told the Jordan Times.

In an earlier interview with the Jordan Times, Percy warned that continued settlements in the occupied territories would perpetuate tension in the Middle East and push the region towards another Arab-Israeli war.

Any such settlement, he said, "is like pouring gasoline into an already overheated situation" and "will push the area into the brink of war."

The delegation also met with Labour leader Shimon Peres, acting Economic Minister Yitzhak Modai, and Jerusalem's Israeli mayor, Teddy Kollek, as well as leaders of the leftist Citizen Rights Movement and groups such as Peace Now, Rabbinic Human Rights Watch, Israeli Women Against Occupation, the Association for Civil Rights and Yeshivah Gvul.

In Amman, the delegation met Tuesday with members of the Palestine National Council. The delegation leaves Wednesday after a press conference at the Amra Hotel.

The delegation's visit to the Middle East was organised by the Washington D.C.-based Pax World Foundation and coordinated by the local chapters of the Middle East Council of Churches.

Crown Prince expresses concern to the Soviets about Arab-Jewish situation

MOSCOW (Petra) — New developments in the Soviet Union and the opening of the door for Jews from the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe to emigrate have both hardened Israel's position and led to further complications of the Palestinian problem. His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said in a message read out at a meeting in Moscow.

"The Arab Nation's concern over the Jewish immigration does not come from a vacuum because the Arabs have long experience with Israel's policies in the occupied territories," the Prince said in his message to the Arab-Soviet dialogue which opened in the Soviet capital Monday.

The message, delivered on Prince Hassan's behalf by Lakhdar Ibrahim, assistant Arab League secretary-general, outlined the Arab Nation's position vis-a-vis relations with the Soviet Union. The situation in the occupied Arab lands and the Middle East conflict.

"We find it our duty to discuss the subject of Soviet Jewish immigration with our Soviet friends whom we hope to convince of our concern and to make them understand our deep worry and our suffering so that Moscow can play a positive and active role towards achieving a just and durable peace in our region," Prince Hassan said.

"By so doing, Israel is trying to give rights to the Soviet Jews at the expense of the Palestinian people's rights in their own homeland," Prince Hassan added.

Prince Hassan, who is chairman of the Arab Thought Forum, said Jordan is now threatened by Israel since it lies directly along the confrontation lines with the Jewish state and in view of the Kingdom's close ties with the Palestinian people.

"Jordan considers Jordan as the substitute homeland for the Palestinians whom it is trying to evict by force and to settle Jews in their place and is therefore posing a direct threat to Jordan's security," Prince Hassan said.

"Jordan and the rest of the Arab World abhor the idea of mass destruction weapons being present in their region and they have supported all international agreements for disarmaments.

But Israel continues to develop its arsenal of mass destruction weapons and there are strong indications that it possesses nuclear, biological as well as chemical weapons and refuses to sign the nuclear non-proliferation treaty," Prince Hassan pointed out.

"Through this dialogue we hope to cooperate with the Soviet Union in fighting proper means of dealing with the situation and in making the world a safer place in which to live and to co-exist," Prince Hassan added.



Prince Hassan

"We hope to study together and reach a formula for Arab-Soviet relations that would safeguard common interests," the Prince pointed out.

Looking back over the years, he said, one can view with pride the Arab-Soviet relationship which saw the Soviet Union helping the Arabs lay down infrastructures for numerous projects.

"The Arabs used to import their arms and food supplies from the Eastern bloc in increasing quantities and it must be pointed out that much of their debts to the Soviet Union resulted from purchases of Soviet arms," Prince Hassan said.

He said that circumstances have changed and are changing, and the two sides ought to find a new formula for their future relationship especially since the Arab World could be housing some 300 million people by the end of the present century and will need more food supplies, energy and water and technology.

Prince Hassan said that the Arabs look towards the Soviet Union as having to play a major role in reforming the world economic order, to rid the world community from problems like debts, poverty and the widening gap between rich and poor nations.

"The Arabs are looking towards a more fruitful relationship with the Soviet Union through close cooperation that can ensure the interests of all parties," Prince Hassan added.

Illiteracy hinders economic and social development — UNESCO

By Nur Seti

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — In 1968, in Addis Ababa, a young mother rushed into a clinic with a sick baby in her arms. She was given a vial of drops and told the proper dosage but by the time she got home, she had forgotten what the nurse told her. After running frantically around the neighbourhood, she finally found a person who was able to read the label on the vial. By that time the baby was nearly dead.

This story, published by UNESCO, is a true example of how illiteracy can be as serious as life and death.

In developing countries, specialists maintain, illiteracy has hindered economic and social development, cultural and spiritual growth. It is also incongruous to the fast changes of science and technology.

"Social groups with a high illiteracy rate have constituted social blocks that are relatively independent from the state and mainstream civic society," say UNESCO publications.

New teaching methods and concepts are the key to breaking that barrier, attracting and motivating learners and link education to civic society.

Specialists see literacy as the first step towards a more scholarly and skilled society. But literacy does not stop at only those who are unable to read, write or do arithmetic. A phenomenon on specialists worry over is that of "functional illiteracy," where the individual is unable to cope with the daily demands of life due to ignorance from lack of education.

UNESCO illiteracy figures show devastating results. The lowest estimate in the Arab World between the ages of 15 and above is 30 per cent of its 200 million population. Adult illiterates alone have increased from 58.6 million in 1985 to 61.1 million in 1990 and this figure is projected to raise to 70 million by the year 2000.

Yousef says: "The communities that are isolated from computers and television and other such technology, will create an even larger gap between the educated and uneducated, the rich and the poor, the rural and urban society and between teaching methods and the reality of society."

Consequently, failures, under-achievements and dropouts are inevitable. Even the successful children become alienated from their own communities and are attracted to lifestyles other than their own.

"Social groups with a high illiteracy rate have constituted social blocks that are relatively independent from the state and mainstream civic society," say UNESCO publications.

The reasons behind having such a great number of uneducated people in society, aside from lack of proper education methods and concepts, are the shortage of qualified teachers.

"The available ones are reluctant to accept additional work, in and out of class, because of inadequate material and moral incentives," UNESCO says.

Moreover, their low social and economic status forces a low self-esteem which adds to their lack of motivation and determination as a teacher. "They are regarded as tools of implementation," say UNESCO publications.

In order to translate into action a reform programme, that has

already been approved by the Arab countries, Yousef believes that certain conditions should be formed. A crucial setting includes the government and the people.

That is to say that integration between the system, institutions, the private sector, media and citizens is necessary to create the atmosphere for learning. Meanwhile, the consumer should have or develop the motivation and will to change his or her life to the better.

So far, Yousef says, the attendance level in literacy classes throughout the Arab World is very low although classes start out in high numbers. "It is the responsibility of the nation at large to convince the illiterates that literacy is to their benefit."

The teaching approach is therefore an important element, according to Yousef, but in some Arab countries, the teacher approaches child and adult in the same manner.

The source of providing the economy with the needed trained labour force is education. Although much money is being channelled in education, the Arab World is not producing the right people for the skilled jobs.

UNESCO figures show that the Arab universities have a student population of two million while the illiteracy level at that stage reaches six million. "If each student is given two illiterates to teach, then illiteracy would be eliminated within 10 years," the UNESCO official said.

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Moderation has a price too

ISRAEL has been working incessantly to bring to an end the U.S.-PLO dialogue in the wake of the Palestine Liberation Front's (PLF) foiled raid on the Israeli coastline last week. Tel Aviv could not wait a second after the abortive raid to point an accusing finger against the PLO as the perpetrator of the attempted attack. Israel did that even before its investigation of the incident was concluded.

The rush to conclusions by the Israeli political authorities was so swift and arbitrary that they soon found themselves contradicted by the findings of their own military. The Israeli chief of military intelligence went on record as saying Yasser Arafat did not know beforehand about the operation. All of this suggests that Israel views the halt of the American-Palestinian ongoing talks as a strategic objective worthy of every effort, connivance or fabrication. Against this backdrop, it would be prudent to frustrate this Israeli manipulation of events by cool-headed diplomacy and to avoid at all costs falling into the trap set up by Tel Aviv. It took many years and concerted efforts to promote the ongoing Palestinian-U.S. dialogue, and while much doubt has been cast on its value or the probability of it ever producing something tangible or concrete, such negotiations probably ought to be continued with the hope that maybe, at the end of the tunnel, Washington may put right its priorities and perspectives in the Middle East.

This proposed policy needs to be developed and strengthened without giving credence to the false impression that policies are being dictated to the PLO every inch of the way on what words to utter or actions to take. Even for the PLO to appear like it is the underdog in all of its dealings with Washington would weaken the organisation and undermine its resolve to wage peace and conclude a peace treaty with Israel when the time is right. No party genuinely interested in peace between the Arabs and Israel would want that to happen. The flanks of the PLO need to be protected from all Israeli and Israeli-inspired designs and conspiracies and its moderate policies must be nurtured and protected. Otherwise, and as His Majesty the King pointed out to a U.S. delegation yesterday, the PLO could lose its mandate to walk the path of peace and to continue the reasonable and objective policies that it has adopted for itself.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

THE ANNIVERSARY of the 1967 Israeli aggression on Arab countries was discussed by Al Ra'i Tuesday. The paper said Arabs should remember June 5, 1967 as the day to remember their usurped land and to seek to regain it through renewed determination and all-out pan-Arab efforts. The 1967 war expanded the Jewish state's geographical area in our region but failed to bring the Israeli real peace and security; neither did that war achieve for world Zionism the great dreams of creating a greater Israel through military power and arrogance, said the paper. Despite the 23 years of occupation, and regardless of the immense material and financial support and assistance the Israelis continue to receive from their allies, they lack real peace, the paper said. One must admit that genuine peace cannot be achieved through cannons and rockets but through justice and right, and the 1967 war, like all Israel's aggressions on the Arabs, could by no means bring peace and stability to Israel or to the Middle East region since the basic requirements of that peace are still lacking, the paper said. Peace, it said, should see the Palestinian people regaining their homeland and their right to self-determination.

Al Dastour commented on Israel's response to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's call for guarantees that Jewish immigrants will not be settled in the occupied Arab territories. The paper said that by refusing to give such assurances, the Israelis have thus slapped the Soviet president on the face despite his endeavours to make the immigration question palatable to everyone and conforming with the spirit of justice and the will of the international community. Israel's response was rude, characterised with arrogance and ill-nature and manifested its real intentions of perpetuating its occupation and plans to expand its domination to new areas, the paper noted. There is no question now about Israel's policies in the occupied territories as it is counting of course on Washington's support and backing all the time and in all actions, the paper added. Furthermore, Israel is openly rejecting Gorbachev's demand so as to embarrass Moscow and cause further splits between the Arabs and the Soviet Union. It remains to be seen, said the paper, whether the Soviet Union will stick to its statements as voiced by Gorbachev at a press conference in Washington about the guarantees that would allow further Jewish immigrations.

Sawt Al Shaab also tackled Moscow's stand vis-a-vis Jewish immigration into Palestine and said Gorbachev was to be commended for his firm position. Israel is now challenging Gorbachev and Moscow to close the door of immigration simply because it is hacked by Washington and it wants the United States to be involved and to pay the cost of immigration, the paper added. Israel is counting on its American ally in dealing with the Soviet Union, which is placing conditions for continuing the process of immigration, Sawt Al Shaab said. In fact it is hoping that the warm relations between Washington and Moscow will open the door wider for immigration, the paper continued. Israel, said the paper, is posing a defiance to Moscow and threatening the Soviets who sooner or later will have to respond and to prove whether they can deal with the issue or succumb to Israel's wishes.

ECONOMIC FORUM

Arab aid to Jordan: Not too late

By Dr. Abdulla Malli

THE ARAB financial aid to Jordan pledged under the Baghdad summit is coming to the rescue of the Jordanian economy at a time which is neither the right nor the wrong time. If it came earlier, the economic, social and political "return" on it would have been much greater. However, it is coming out too late and there is really every chance of making up for lost time and lost opportunities (provided, of course, it is really forthcoming).

If there is only one major lesson to be learnt from the economic developments of the last three or four years, then

this lesson must be that exchange rate issues should not be taken lightly, currency devaluation is too dangerous to be subjected to trial-and-error experimentation and that the stability of the exchange rate in a developed country is absolutely indispensable. We had devalued the Jordanian dinar in pursuance of irrelevant theoretical smartness and paid such terrible cost in the form of capital flight and wild jumps in cost of living. Many excuses have been made to justify this unjustifiable course of action. Had the Arab aid come two or three years earlier it would have denied devaluation mongers the

excuse which they used to seduce the politicians to slip down the devaluation slope.

Economic deterioration after the 1988 devaluation necessitated the adoption and implementation of the correction programme in participation with and under the supervision of the International Monetary Fund. The core of the programme is the elimination of the budget deficit. In this connection, two points have merged which, to specialists, must be crystal clear. Because the tackling of this deficit drew heavily on cutting public spending rather than on boosting re-

venues, deflationary effects have crept into the economy and are threatening to push it into continued depression. Here we come to the second point; the austerity involved in this correction mechanism is too big to be shouldered without the socio-political system cracking under its burden. This is a reference specifically to freezing wages amidst soaring prices (thereby costs of living) and high unemployment levels. To complicate things, cutting public spending is curtailing directly public investments and indirectly private investments in a way that will perpetuate unemployment and wage & sal-

ary freezing. The significance of Arab aid is that it can help break this vicious circle. It will uproot the budget deficit instantly and will thereafter allow the normal functioning of the public finance and the fiscal policy as to be a force that propels economic activity rather than constrains it. Certainly, putting the government house back in order will send confidence and motivate the private sector to go back to normal action.

There is now almost a consensus that we should have paused in 1985 to make a thorough and in-depth assessment

of our economic conditions and our future path instead of proceeding, as we did, on the assumption that the future patterns of production and aid would mirror those of the previous years. To my mind, there is now a pressing need to pause and think carefully of how to use the promised Arab aid and to specify the concomitant domestic policies that would help to magnify its positive effects. It is sincerely hoped that the mistake of the 1985 will not be repeated. (But is any additional Arab aid really on the way?).

Israelisation of Jerusalem

By Daoud Kuttab

THE FORCED take-over by 150 Jewish settlers of the St. John's Hospice with the full protection of the Israeli security forces on April 11, 1990 was the latest expression of an ongoing Israeli policy to "Judaize" the city of Jerusalem. The process began immediately after the Israelis captured the city in 1967, first in the Old Jewish Quarter, and then in other parts of the Old City and the rest of East Jerusalem. Thousands of Palestinians in the Mughrabi Quarter were immediately evicted and their homes levelled. The Jewish Quarter was expanded through expropriation of the surrounding neighbourhoods.

The Israelisation of Jerusalem has not been restricted to the Holy City. All maps of Jerusalem now available refer to the entire city by its Hebrew name; Yerushalayim; none mention its Arabic name Al Quds.

On June 28, 1967, the Israeli government unilaterally annexed East Jerusalem and placed it under Israeli civil law. The East Jerusalem municipality was dissolved and the Palestinian mayor of Jerusalem, Rawhi Khatib, was deported. Later a number of Muslim community leaders, including Shaikh Abdul Hamid Al Sayil, now the speaker of the PNC, were also deported.

One of the earliest statements made by an Israeli politician after the conquest of the city dealt with the issue of religious freedom and property. Levi Ashkol, then prime minister, said Israelis would respect the rights and properties of the various religious orders in the city. The promise was not kept. The latest action against the St. John's Hospice is just the latest of a long list of such violations. For Jerusalem's Muslims the situation has been even worse. A large quantity of waqf (Islamic trust) property has been seized by the Israelis, members of the clergy were arrested, beaten and deported and worshippers generally harassed, even inside Al Aqsa.

The Israelisation of Jerusalem has not been restricted to the Holy City. All maps of Jerusalem now available refer to the entire City by its Hebrew name, Yerushalayim; none mention its Arabic name Al Quds. They all omit the line that used to divide the city before 1967. Few street names appear in the maps of exclusively Arab neighbourhoods, and many of those that do are given only their Hebrew names. As a result it is difficult for anyone trying to find his way round East Jerusalem. For instance, if an American tourist wants to visit his consulate, he will be told that it is on Nablus Road, which all available maps call by its Hebrew name Yehud.

Housing issue

While this could perhaps be seen as an example of symbolic in the construction that has taken place in East Jerusalem since 1967. Much of it has taken place outside the pre-1967 municipal boundary of the city but these areas have simply been added to the new Israeli municipality. A number of new settlements, exclusively for Israelis, were built in East Jerusalem for the purpose of preventing the return of the eastern sector of the city to Arab rule. The Israelis call these new housing complexes built on Arab land "neighbourhoods" rather than "settlements." Most of the inhabitants moved in for economic rather than ideological reasons.

Despite the housing shortage of the 1970s and '80s, the West Jerusalem municipality granted few permits for building houses for the 150,000 Arabs of East Jerusalem. Only one major housing complex has been permitted since 1967, the Nuseibeh Project. Many Palestinians believe that the Israelis allowed this to be built in order to ease the pressure from the Palestinian families who were being kicked out of the Old City to make room for the expanded Jewish Quarter. One Arab resident, Mohammad Burjan, whose house was just outside the original Jewish Quarter, had it confiscated in the early 1970s. It was advertised for sale in Israeli newspapers. Burjan applied to buy his own house back, but the Israeli company which was selling the house refused to let him. Burjan appealed to the High Court, but this was rejected because he was an Arab.

A new zoning plan for north Jerusalem, the one area where Palestinians had a chance to expand, has been held up because the Israelis fought among themselves about how many apartments should be allowed for the city's Arab residents. The housing ministry, headed by the Likud's David Levy, reportedly demanded that only 7,600 be allowed while the Jerusalem municipality, headed by the Labour mayor, Teddy Kollek, asked for 15,000. Not that Kollek was that benevolent towards his city's Arab population. The Palestinians, who make up about one-third of the entire city's population, only receive one per cent of the city's budget, according to newly elected city councillor Moshe Amrav.

But whether it was the number of apartments or the budget distribution, Jerusalem's Palestinian population has never been consulted. The Israelis have what they believe to be a perfectly logical explanation. The Arabs are more than welcome to join the municipalities, by putting up candidates and voting them into office. Palestinians think differently. They, like the rest of the world, have never recognised the unilateral Israeli action of annexing East Jerusalem to the State of Israel. They still consider East Jerusalem an integral part of the West Bank and thus under occupation. To participate in municipal elections would be tantamount to accepting the legitimacy of the annexation.

Less than four per cent of over 80,000 eligible voters in East Jerusalem cast their ballots in 1989. Many of those were not Palestinian Arabs; they included Armenians and a number of priests, monks and nuns connected to the various foreign religious establishments in Jerusalem. Four years ago almost 19 per cent of the East Jerusalem population participated in the vote, helping Teddy Kollek to get two extra seats he needed to give him a majority — Middle East International.

Right-wing whites threaten de Klerk's moves towards an apartheid-free nation

By Barry Rosefield
The Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG — Right-wing whites are organising and arming in a desperate effort to stop the government from sharing power with the black majority.

Their leaders are enraged by President F.W. de Klerk's plans to end apartheid and say they will never accept a black government. Both white and black leaders fear the right-wing will provoke violence that could endanger efforts to find a peaceful solution.

While the pro-apartheid Conservative Party tries to force an election and unseat de Klerk, more radical groups are arming for war.

Extremists have raided government armories for guns, neo-Nazis are organising military units and "White Wolf" groups have attacked blacks.

"We are preparing ourselves to meet the revolution that Mr. Mandela's killers will start; it will be a holy war," extreme right-wing leader Eugene Terreblanche said in an interview, referring to Nelson Mandela.

On May 26, about 50,000 whites attended a Conservative Party rally in Pretoria to demand de Klerk's ouster. The crowd cheered wildly when party leader Andries Treurnicht said whites never would surrender political control.

"We shall not accept the threatened destruction of our nation's freedoms, but will fight to restore that which has already been unjustly given away," Treurnicht declared.

De Klerk said the tactics could start a war between whites.

"The Conservative Party's threats of revolt and resistance are irresponsible, undemocratic and dangerous," he said two days after the rally.

Officials say a few hundred

well-armed extremists with supporters in the security services could launch a devastating terrorist campaign, and attacks on blacks or government leaders could threaten fragile peace negotiations.

"There is going to be violence," said a security official, who would not let his name be used. "The question is how much."

Mandela and other black leaders share the government's concern.

"Unless the state acts immediately to stop the recent wave of right-wing attacks on black people, the whole peace process in this country could be in jeopardy," said the New Nation newspaper, which supports Mandela's African National Congress (ANC), the main black opposition group.

Many of South Africa's 5 million whites oppose plans to dismantle apartheid, the official policy of race segregation that preserves their privileges and denies rights to the 28 million blacks.

A growing number of whites, stunned by reforms de Klerk has introduced since assuming office last year, are turning to the Conservative Party or more extreme organisations. The fear blacks will seek retribution, and many have weapons in a nation sometimes described as "awash with guns."

The Conservatives want whites to keep total control and blacks to be given political rights in separate, tribal-based states. They say de Klerk has betrayed whites, above all the dominant Afrikaners, who are descended from Dutch settlers and account for 60 per cent of the white population.

He says his Conservatives, who got 31 per cent of the vote in September's white elections, could win a whites-only election held now. Officials of the ruling National Party admit privately the Conservatives would stand a good chance.

The Conservatives cannot force an election, however, and

de Klerk does not have to call one until 1994. The government hopes to carry out its reforms before then and show whites they have nothing to fear.

Treurnicht, who holds a doctorate in religious philosophy, disavows violence and says his party will achieve its goals through the ballot box, but makes veiled threats of what could happen if it does not succeed.

"We have told Mr. de Klerk you cannot expect a people to lie down if you take away their rights," he said.

More extreme organisations, such as the neo-Nazi Afrikaner Resistance Movement, are preparing for what its leaders say is an inevitable race war. The groups, which have thousands of members, are forming private armies.

"I say to the government that, if you are going to sell out the whites to the blacks in this unjust way, we are going to fight for what is rightfully ours," Jap Marais, leader of the Pure National Party, said in an interview.

About 300 members of the Afrikaner Resistance Movement, dressed in khaki uniforms reminiscent of Nazi storm troopers, practised shooting, "not tactics and marching at a recent training session on a farm outside Johannesburg.

Women in uniforms were taught by former army instructors to use pistols and shotguns. Children played while their parents trained, and there were family picnics under the trees.

Janie Grobelaar, a political analyst, said the extremists believe their survival is at stake, and "these actions should not be simply dismissed as those of fanatic fringes."

She said they are determined to protect "what they see as the white South African way of life."

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The Conservatives cannot force an election, however, and



Andy Capp



Peanuts



Immigration debate gains legitimacy in Australia



The painting "The Founding of Australia," by Alceon Tarnage, recreates the scene of the unfurling of the British flag at Sydney Cove, in 1788. "Living Together" was chosen as the theme for Australia's bicentenary of European settlement. In 1990, however, the policy of easy migration to Australia is the centre of a hot debate.

By Michael Perry
Reuter

SYDNEY — Australia, a nation built on successive waves of migrants, has never found it easy to come to grips with immigration.

"In over 200 years there has always been the argument from those already here that one else should come," said Carl Harbaum, Chairman of the Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia.

The immigration debate bubbled to the surface again lately, but this time the discussion was based more on economics than emotion.

Some of Australia's most senior politicians and academics called for a cut, or at the very least a reassessment, of the present immigration policy which increases the population by around one per cent every year. Australia's current population is around 16 million.

In the past, attempts to stage a debate on immigration have degenerated into slanging matches. This time the charges of racism laid against those who dared call for a cut in immigration were conspicuous by their absence.

Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke said he welcomed an unprejudiced debate on the issue. "I welcome any informed and unprejudiced debate in this country about immigration," Hawke said.

"I have a commitment to immigration and what it has meant to this country, but that doesn't mean I think there is a sacredness about this issue which precludes debate."

Former Finance Minister Peter Walsh rekindled the debate by saying Australia's record level of immigration was fuelling demand in an overheated economy and media commentators.

Former Immigration Minister Stewart West called for a reassessment of the annual intake on economic grounds, saying the

had to be cut. Australia allows 150,000 migrants entry each year.

Immigration officials say it is taking more people per head of population than any other country with the exception of Israel.

"It is beyond any reasonable doubt that the present immigration programme is seriously aggravating our short and medium-term economic problems," Walsh said.

The additional demand for housing and other social infrastructure investment arising from immigration-induced higher population growth has a greater adverse impact on the current account."

Until 1959 Australia conducted a white Australia immigration policy. Today over 40 per cent of migrants come from Asia compared with 19.3 per cent from Britain and Ireland and 5.2 per cent from Europe.

For the past two decades determining the rate and composition of immigration has become a political nightmare for Australian governments faced with a vocal and highly politicised ethnic community.

"In the late 70s and 80s migration became a sacred cow and now to challenge it means you are labelled a racist," said Robert Burrell, senior sociology lecturer at Monash University.

"They (ethnic leaders) can't differentiate between an opinion on immigration and an opinion on migrants. They take it very personally."

This time, however, Walsh's comments attracted support from senior politicians, academics and media commentators.

Former Immigration Minister Stewart West called for a reassessment of the annual intake on economic grounds, saying the

present rate could be cut by 40,000.

"You have to ask yourself, does it make sense to bring 140,000 people a year in, now that we are sliding into recession," said West.

Burrell said present urban planning was inadequate for the high level of immigration.

He said 40 per cent of migrants settled in Sydney which was already suffering from a chronic housing shortage, sewerage problems and transport strains.

"The point is that we're running a high migration programme when we don't have in place the planning mechanisms or the finances to provide for these people," he said.

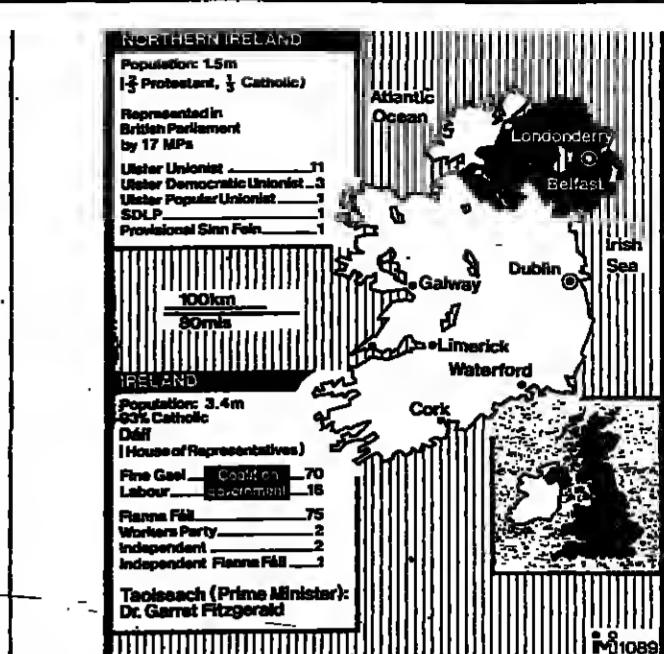
But Brian Parmenter, deputy director of Melbourne University's Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research, rejected Walsh's argument, saying that the accumulated capital migrants brought into Australia would offset any balance of payment pressures.

Parmenter said in 1989 migrants brought \$1.9 billion into the country.

"The majority view of economists is that the mechanism mentioned by Walsh is important, but there are still many other issues to be debated," Parmenter said.

Australia's business migration programme actively recruits migrants with business skills and up to \$500,000 dollars (\$649,000) to invest. About 10,200 people received visas under the programme in the year which ended on June 30, 1989, immigration officials said.

So far, said Harbaum, there is no indication of racial prejudice coming up in the arguments for and against (immigration) — it's been kept at the purely economic level.



Belfast's "peace lines" get a new look

By William Saltmarsh
Reuter

BELFAST — While the Berlin Wall comes down, the walls of Belfast are having a face-lift.

Nowadays they come in a variety of styles and pleasant colours, set in landscaped lawns with flowerbeds at their feet. They could belong to parks or elegant private estates.

But these walls are meant to stop people killing each other. They're the "peace lines" of Northern Ireland's capital, the barriers that for two decades of guerrilla conflict have divided Protestant and Roman Catholic ghettos.

For most of that time the peace lines were high corrugated-iron fences, roughly patched up when they rusted or were torn down in the violence between Catholic nationalists seeking unity with Ireland and Protestants who want to remain part of Britain.

Gradually the British government has been replacing the shabby eyecores with red-brick walls, tall railings and steel panels the strength of which is overlaid with gleaming new paint.

Police said last week that yet another barrier is to be added to the network which protects at strategic points across the city.

"While other people pull their walls down we're rebuilding ours — nicely decorated," said one Belfast resident.

The comparison with Berlin and the iron curtain has also been made by moderate nationalist leader John Hume, who rejects the violent route to Irish unity chosen by guerrillas of the Irish Republican Army.

"Barriers are coming down all over Europe," he said. "Are we to be the last?"

The British government denies that the solid look of the new peace lines signals permanence and pessimism over the solution of a conflict that has claimed almost 3,000 lives in the past 20 years.

"They're something that was here anyway. Since they're a reality we only want to make them more attractive," said one official.

"We could still bring them down easily, even gleefully. They're what the people in those areas want on both sides. It seems to give communities a sense of reassurance."

The government is also pouring money into building neat brick homes to replace bleak terraces

of sub-standard houses that fuelled the Catholic minority's charges of discrimination.

Even the notorious Divis flats are coming down.

This massive concrete apartment complex close to the city centre was thrown up hurriedly to house Catholics who fled their homes in the early days of the violence.

Its high blocks and long balconies made it an instant fortress for nationalist gunmen and the scene of some of Belfast's fiercest fighting.

Women who lived there, struggling to bring up families amid the shooting, were reputed to have the highest consumption of tranquillisers in the Western world.

The remaining flats bear the scars — bullet holes, scorched walls, shattered windows. It's still a nationalist stronghold. Now, though, the people are moving out, into the new housing.

The battles continue in Belfast. Streets are potholed from the latest bomb blast or blackened where a car has burned. The divides between Protestant and Catholic districts — the British Army calls them "interfaces" — can be picked out by the gutted buildings.

But many Catholic areas have an air of self-confidence that contrasts with the grim depression of a few years ago.

Local people ascribe this partly to Britain's efforts to brighten their physical surroundings by building new homes, refurbishing houses that are worth saving, putting up sports centres and planting trees and flowers.

They say it also stems from the 1985 Anglo-Irish agreement which gave Dublin a consultative voice in day-to-day affairs in the province. Catholics see the Joint Civil Service Secretariat established under the agreement as providing them with a chance to air grievances about the way Northern Ireland is run.

The Irish tricolour flag flies openly over buildings in Catholic districts in a way that would once have invited rapid Protestant retaliation.

And nobody takes down official signs renaming streets in Irish instead of English. Ballymurphy Parade is now Parade Bhaile U Murchu.

But at least one name change — this time from English to English — reflects the reality underneath.

Peru's guerrilla capital faces 'psychosis of terror'

By Roger Atwood
Reuter

AYACUCHO, Peru — "For 10 years I haven't felt calm for a single moment. Nor has anyone else here," said Father Gonzalo Leonardo, a Roman Catholic priest and school headmaster.

Once-peaceful Ayacucho, birthplace of the Maoist Shining Path guerrilla movement, has spent the past decade under what one resident called a "psychosis of terror" caused by violence by guerrillas, security forces, and shadowy vigilante squads.

The city swarms with police and soldiers. At night submachine gun fire rattles on the outskirts and army trucks packed with troops rumble incessantly down the narrow streets.

People say they have grown to distrust their own friends and neighbours for fear of guerrilla informers.

The Maoist insurgency, launched 10 years ago, has transformed Ayacucho from a city known for its colourful religious festivities and folkloric art into the nation's synonym for terror.

"Before, when someone died, everybody went to the funeral. Now, with so much violence, people see a corpse in the street and walk right past without looking twice," said Leonardo.

Everyone in this city, 350 kilometres south of Lima, knows someone among the 19,000 who have been killed in the fighting, by either guerrillas, security

fear and apathy are the few feelings left for the people of Ayacucho who live under a "psychosis of terror" with the Maoist Shining Path guerrilla in the neighbourhood.

forces or paramilitary squads that have sprung up in the past two years.

"People don't jump anymore when they hear gunfire or a bomb. It's become a part of daily life, part of our psychosis of terror," said Dario Del Pozo, a former mayor of the city of 120,000 people nestling in the Andean foothills.

Shining Path, which sees itself as the only truly Communist guerrilla group in the world, has fed on poverty and despair to bring parts of Peru's countryside to the brink of civil war.

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The guerrillas chose the rugged hills outside Ayacucho to launch

the insurgency, feeling they could capitalise on the region's high illiteracy and infant mortality rates and years of neglect by the political establishment.

"Ayacucho has always been frustrated and neglected. The terrorists have taken advantage of that feeling," said Del Pozo, who lives a few blocks from where guerrillas killed Ayacucho's Mayor, Fermín Asparrat, last September.

The city's once solid tourism industry is in shambles.

Academics who used to come to study Indian customs and languages have been scared off. Western aid workers abandoned

the area after Shining Path killed two French agronomists in 1988.

What little business investment

there was before the guerrilla war almost completely dried up.

With virtually no new construction, the rundown city has ironically preserved a certain colonial-era charm over the years, with few modern buildings to overshadow the splendid churches and Spanish-style villas.

But the war's effects on the minds of residents has ent

deeper.

Children play a game called

"terrorism," in which some pose as gun-toting guerrillas and others as police.

"People never knew who might be listening, so they became more

ambiguous in their conversation, as if hiding something," he said.

The guerrillas deal ruthlessly with police informers, critics and anyone else who gets in their way. The usual way of death for such people is to be dragged from their homes at night, tied at the wrists, and shot.

A sign is usually left on the corpse stating the person's "offence" — "this is the way squatters die," for example.

Rightist vigilante squads have their own trademarks. They, too, usually strike at night, but wear masks to hide their identities and often take the victim away in a car before killing him or her.

The violence has aggravated social diseases such as alcoholism, child abandonment and wife-beating, residents say.

"We have a serious alcoholism

problem in Ayacucho. People say: 'I might as well drink today, because tomorrow I may die.'

We live very much in the present," Villena said.

Villena was a university colleague of Shining Path's mysterious founder, Abimael Guzman, a former philosophy professor who led a band of radical students and disaffected peasants into the mountains in the late 1970s to launch the insurgency.

In their first armed raid the guerrillas showed their disdain for "bourgeois democracy" by burning ballot boxes and voter rolls in the village of Chuschi, near Ayacucho, on the eve of presidential elections on May 18, 1980.

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Egypt seeks IMF help in a new round of talks

CAIRO (R) — After two years of hard bargaining and painful austerity measures, Egypt hopes to get International Monetary Fund (IMF) help to revive its stagnant economy in a new round of talks starting Wednesday.

To show the IMF it means business, Cairo last month risked public wrath by increasing prices of a wide range of essential subsidised consumer goods.

It now enters the talks armed with a new budget expected to slash the state deficit.

Last month President Hosni Mubarak said negotiations with the IMF had yielded agreement in principle and Prime Minister Atef Sedki said an accord was expected by July.

In the last month, Egypt has:

— Raised prices of consumer goods including domestic cooking gas by about 130 per cent, locally-produced cigarettes by 20 per cent, wheat, flour and rice prices by 10 to 160 per cent and petrol and kerosene by 40 to 60 per cent.

— Announced a sharp decrease in the official exchange rate used for wheat imports and oil and cotton exports. The adjustment, to take effect July 1,

will bring it much closer to market rates.

— Halted it would raise interest rates on bank deposits as of July 1 by around one or two points.

The government expects its budget for the financial year beginning in July to meet a key IMF demand that it reduce its deficit.

An analysis on the national news agency MENA said the new deficit would equal only eight per cent of gross domestic product, compared to 13.5 per cent the year before and 16 per cent the year

Extent of reforms

But Western economists say the five-member IMF team, due to hold two weeks of talks, will want to pore over the new budget to assess how far reforms have actually gone.

They will want to know how the government derived its figures and apply their own accounting standards to them.

Egypt has a massive trade deficit and has been finding it increasingly difficult to get trade finance. Western economists say the government has only enough cash to pay for crucial wheat

imports until around October. An IMF accord would let Egypt draw on IMF standby credits if necessary and pave the way for World Bank assistance.

It would also open the way for the Paris Club of government creditors to reschedule their portion of Egypt's estimated \$50 billion in foreign debt.

Egypt reached its last accord with the Paris Club in May 1987 but has since fallen heavily into arrears. A Paris Club agreement might even open the way to new foreign assistance.

For the last two years the IMF has been asking Egypt to liberalise its economy and encourage the private sector.

It wants to promote exports from areas such as agriculture and light industry and gradually loosen the complicated system of state-imposed prices to reflect market values more closely.

Freeing prices will initially fuel inflation so the IMF wants the government to print less money.

"The whole thrust is to move from a highly-controlled economy to a freer one," said one Western economist.

He said the government had taken courageous steps to reform



Hosni Mubarak

the system and reduce red tape but much still needed to be done.

"You still need 20 rubber stamps to export something."

IMF negotiations have been complicated by a recent Supreme Court ruling that Parliament had been improperly elected.

Western analysts say Mubarak surprised many critics by indicating he would not try to get around the ruling.

Last week Parliament went into early recess and Mubarak is expected to call elections sometime before November.

"The question now is how much does Mubarak want to be seen as taking unpopular measures at a time of elections," said an economist.

Istanbul, Tehran may resume stalled gas talks

ANKARA (R) — Turkey and Iran are looking to resume stalled talks on the first phase of a planned project to pump Iranian natural gas across Turkey to Western Europe, a senior Turkish industry official said Tuesday.

"We may start negotiations on a gas pipeline again, possibly in Ankara in the next month," Nezih Berkman, director-general of Turkey's state-run pipeline corporation Botas, told Reuters.

Possible talks on the pipeline, which could stretch 3,800 kilometres from the Iranian city of Isfahan to Austria, follow improved ties between neighbouring Turkey and Iran.

Berkman said the mooted pipeline would probably go to Iskenderun, a port on Turkey's Mediterranean coast, where two crude oil export pipelines from Iraq emerge, and then 900 kilometres across the bleak Anatolian heartland to Istanbul.

"We have not worked out the cost but we estimated in 1988 that the whole link to Austria would cost a total of \$12 billion at prices at the time," he said.

Industry sources said Iran would probably finance the cost of the pipeline through its territory and that it had asked Ankara to pay for the part running across

Turkey.

"I think the Iranians want to sell gas at least to Greece, Bulgaria and Austria and possibly Italy if feasible," he added.

Iran has the world's largest gas reserves after the Soviet Union, which since 1987 has been selling gas to Turkey via Bulgaria through a pipeline to Istanbul now extended to Ankara.

The industry sources said they believed Iran was exporting around three billion cubic metres of natural gas a year to the Soviet Union through a pipeline into Soviet Azerbaijan.

"It appears the Soviets may be sending some of this gas to other countries in Eastern Europe," one said.

North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) member Turkey would be likely to buy gas from the planned Iranian link across its territory to help diversify its sources, which from 1993 will also include Algeria.

The gas link project was first mooted in 1981 but never came to fruition because Iran and Iraq were fighting at the time.

Some Turkish industry sources are sceptical that the pipeline will ever come to fruition.

"There has been much talk about it in the past but nothing has materialised. Who now?" one

Berkman said Iran and Turkey had finally dropped plans for a crude oil export pipeline costing about \$4 billion from Iran's Ahvaz fields to Iskenderun, partly because the Gulf was operating normally following the 1988 Iran-Iraq ceasefire.

He said Turkey planned to take around four billion cubic metres of Soviet gas this year, partly on a barter basis, compared with 3.1 billion in 1989.

"The 1990 figure could be 25 per cent either way. We plan to take 4.5 billion cubic metres in 1991, rising to five to six billion by the end of 1992," Berkman said.

He said supplies of Algerian gas would start in 1992 after completion of a depot on the sea of Marmara, adding: "We see supplies rising to two billion cubic metres in four years."

Berkman said Botas reported a net 1989 profit of 135 billion Turkish lira (\$52 million), up from 30 billion lira (\$11.5 million) the previous year.

He said the increased profits were helped partly by natural gas. "We tie up with 57 Turkish companies of which 15 are receiving gas. More are coming in every day," he added.

Is Trump in trouble?

NEW YORK (Agencies) — Donald Trump's principal holding company said Monday that it was holding talks with its major bank creditors, as reports surfaced that the flamboyant New York real estate magnate was facing a critical cash shortage.

"Currently we are meeting with major banks and are having cooperative and constructive discussions," the Trump Organisation said in a statement.

While Trump's still-unresolved marital woes with his wife Ivana have been headline-making, the real estate developer has also been beset by an apparent but quiet cash squeeze.

An estimated \$2 billion in loans were taken on to buy assets like the East Coast air shuttle linking New York, Washington and Boston, build the Taj Mahal casino in Atlantic City, and support a rich lifestyle that includes a private helicopter, \$30-million yacht, and waterfront mansion in Florida.

Although Trump admitted last month he was putting selected assets, like the year-old Trump shuttle, on the auction block, he insisted that the sales were being used to build a war chest of cash for future acquisitions.

But he may also be seeking to put his financial house in order and raise money to meet debt payments. A report in the Wall Street Journal Monday quoted bankers who said they want Trump to run his empire on a more conservative basis to ensure interest payments on his debt are made.

The article said Trump's lenders have grown concerned that his holdings, including his three Atlantic City casinos, are not producing enough cash to meet payments. The report said they had begun meeting with Trump and his aides two weeks ago.

The Trump Organisation, issuing the statement after the article appeared, expressed confidence that its long-term earnings prospects will allow it to successfully resolve its bank talks.

"Based upon the excellent asset values and their long-term earnings potential, we are confident we will arrive at a mutually beneficial solution," the company said.

Although the closely-held company has no outstanding shares, the junk bond debt issued to finance development of Trump's casino and real estate properties fell sharply on Monday.

Trump's financial pressures have still left the real estate magnate with time to develop his budding writing skills. The author of the 1987 bestseller "The Art of the Deal," Trump is now promoting its sequel, "Surviving at the Top."

The Wall Street Journal story followed a string of negative reports about how well Trump's empire is doing. Forbes Magazine recently sliced its estimate of the developer's net worth to \$300 million from more than 1.5 billion.

Trump consistently has maintained he was having no liquidity problems. After questions were first raised about his cash flow, the developer was so enraged that he threatened to sue newspapers

Oil prices hit 16-month low

LONDON (Agencies) — Oil prices dropped sharply Tuesday in a market unnerved by new evidence of excess Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) supply and speculation that Saudi Arabia, the biggest exporter, is offering discounts.

North Sea Brent crude, the most widely traded crude, was quoted below \$15 a barrel for prompt loading for the first time since December, 1988. It fetched \$23 early this year.

The latest fall in spot (free market) prices extended a steady decline of recent weeks which is taking the real value of the barrel, allowing for inflation, to around levels last seen in the glut of the mid-1980s.

The new drop reflects concern among traders that Saudi Arabia, exasperated by continued quota violations by others in the 13-nation Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, may soon increase output again to teach transgressors a lesson.

Such fears were prompted by telexes that Saudi Arabia was lowering its contract price formula for its July loadings.

Several traders saw this as a signal that it might be getting ready to raise volume after a cut in its output in May which it made under a new OPEC agreement intended to reduce the glut. Saudi Arabia has already made known that it is vexed by how few of the 12 other members joined in cutting output.

But Gulf sources with knowledge of Saudi thinking said Tuesday that the kingdom regarded its pricing step as a marketing matter not connected with any decision on output. "We are still at quota and continue to be," one said.

Western industry officials say that the Saudis will fix their July loading programme in mid-June and that if output discipline in the rest of OPEC is still trying their patience then they could yet rescind their production cut.

"A lower pricing formula would help them push more volume if they wanted to," said an economist.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Tuesday, June 5, 1990			
Central Bank official rates			
Buy	Sell	Japanese yen (for 100)	438.7 441.3
U.S. dollar	669.0 673.0	Dutch guilder	351.9 354.0
Pound Sterling	1123.2 1128.9	Swedish crown	109.5 110.2
Deutschmark	396.3 398.7	Italian lira (for 100)	53.9 54.2
Swiss franc	466.3 469.1	Belgian franc (for 10)	191.4 193.6
French franc	117.6 118.3		

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at mid-session on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One Sterling	1.6770/80	U.S. dollar	Canadian dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.1760/70	Dentschmarks	Dutch guilders
	1.6945/55	Swiss francs	Belgian francs
	1.9080/90	French francs	Italian lire
	1.4395/4405	Japanese yen	Swedish crowns
	34.85/90	Belgian francs	Norwegian crowns
	5.7080/7130	French francs	Danish crowns
	1246/1247	Italian lire	U.S. dollars
	152.40/50	Japanese yen	Canadian dollar
	6.1185/1235	Swedish crowns	Dentschmarks
	6.5125/5225	Norwegian crowns	Dutch guilders
	6.4285/4335	Danish crowns	Swiss francs
One ounce of gold	357.55/95		

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

TOKYO — Stocks closed little changed as brokers sought in vain for direction. Optimism over record Wall Street gains and possible interest rate declines in the United States gave way to caution. The Nikkei index closed 3.75 down at 32,921.62.

SYDNEY — Stocks closed at their highest for more than two months on good volume after a solid performance on Wall Street sustained a local rally. The All Ordinaries index ended 3.9 up at 1,528.8.

HONG KONG — Share prices closed slightly firmer in Hong Kong after a day of consolidation. The Hang Seng Index rose 5.84 to end the day at 3,159.06.

SINGAPORE — Shares closed lower in quiet trading on profit-taking or selling to cut losses. The Straits Times Index fell 1.4 to 1,550.71.

BOMBAY — Share prices ended mixed in poor trading as players kept to the sidelines ahead of the end-of-account period later this week. For the second day institutions were the only buyers. The Bombay Stock Exchange Index fell 2.50 to 795.11.

FRANKFURT — Shares closed 1.1 per cent higher in fairly active trading. New highs on Wall Street, a firmer domestic bond market and high demand for certain blue chips boosted prices. The Dax Index rose 19.74 to 1,876.69.

ZURICH — The SPI index closed up 8.1 at 1,195. Dealers reported solid buying interest and said profit-taking was easily absorbed.

PARIS — Prices were softer by midday in exceptionally slow trading as operators returned from the long holiday weekend.

LONDON — Shares declined in a volatile market during the late session as Wall Street's early rally ran out of steam. At 1442 GMT the FTSE index was unchanged at 2,379.0.

NEW YORK — Stocks turned mixed in late morning as blue chips gave up early gains and began to fall on profit-taking. Blue Chips have led the market's march to record highs in recent weeks. The Dow was down five at 2,931.

JORDAN TIMES, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6, 1990

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY JUNE 6, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation
GENERAL TENDENCIES: Days, limitations and frustrations are lifted this morning with the good aspects that prevail unless you try to force things through or have resentment for the actions of others.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Get at it outside matter of importance during the morning for you later find it is best to stock to usual ways of having vocational outlet.

</div

Morocco eyes 1998 World Cup

RABAT (R) — As the World Cup finals begin in Italy this week, Morocco has its sights set on years ahead.

Turned down as hosts for the 1994 finals in favour of the United States, the kingdom is making a determined pitch for 1998.

The President of the Royal Moroccan Football Federation, left Monday for FIFA's annual meeting in Rome Wednesday.

He will try to persuade International Football Federation (FIFA) members it is time an African country hosted the event, staged so far only in Europe or Latin America.

The Moroccans will have a special stand at the meeting to present their plans to accommodate the World Cup.

"When the FIFA committee comes to Morocco (in 1992), it will find not just cardboard models but construction going on for eight new stadiums in the king dom's main cities," said Kamal Lahlou, a member of Morocco's organising committee.

In a television debate last week, sports experts expressed displeasure at FIFA's rejection of Morocco for 1994.

The FIFA vote was not objective. They preferred the Americans to Africa despite the quality and popularity of African football, a Casablanca club trainer lamented.

Gonzalez keeps WBC light flyweight title

INGLEWOOD, California (AP)

Humberto Gonzalez of Mexico City successfully defended his World Boxing Council (WBC) light flyweight championship Monday night, knocking out Luis Monzote of the United States, at 54 seconds of the third round.

Despite his record, Monzote was the WBC's top-ranked light flyweight contender which qualified him for the title bout. Monzote had won eight straight fights before Monday night.

Earlier, Monday night, Joe Orewa of Los Angeles won a 12-round decision over Tommy Valdez of Tijuana, Mexico, in a super bantamweight bout. Orewa, who weighed 119 3/4 pounds (54.2 kilograms), is 18-4 with 10 knockouts. Valdez, who weighed 122 pounds (55.2 kilograms), fell to 29-6-1 with 22 knockouts.

Gonzalez, 23, floored Monzote twice in the third round with left hooks. After the second knockdown, Monzote was hit with seven consecutive punches before referee Dr. James Jen-Kin stopped the bout.

The first knockdown came 20 seconds into the round. Monzote got to his feet immediately and took the mandatory eight count.

However, just five seconds later, Monzote was down again. He struggled to his feet and again took the mandatory eight count, but after that, he was unable to defend himself and the bout was stopped.

Monzote, a 27-year-old Cuban-born left-hander, won the first round with quick jabs, but was hurt in the second with a left hand which sent him to the run.

The bout at the forum was scheduled for 12 rounds.

Gonzalez won his title last June 25 with a 12-round decision over Yol-Woo Lee in Seoul, South Korea. Gonzalez successfully defended his crown last December

by scoring a 12-round decision over Jun-Koo Chang in Taegu, South Korea and on March 24 by knocking out Francisco Tejedor in the third round in Mexico City.

Gonzalez, who weighed 107 3/4 pounds (48.5 kilograms), is 27-0 with 21 knockouts. Monzote, who weighed 107 pounds (48.47 kilograms), fell to 12-7 with five knockouts.

Gonzalez, 23, floored Monzote twice in the third round with left hooks. After the second knockdown, Monzote was hit with seven consecutive punches before referee Dr. James Jen-Kin stopped the bout.

The first knockdown came 20 seconds into the round. Monzote got to his feet immediately and took the mandatory eight count.

However, just five seconds later, Monzote was down again. He struggled to his feet and again took the mandatory eight count, but after that, he was unable to defend himself and the bout was stopped.

Monzote, a 27-year-old Cuban-born left-hander, won the first round with quick jabs, but was hurt in the second with a left hand which sent him to the run.

The bout at the forum was scheduled for 12 rounds.

Gonzalez won his title last June 25 with a 12-round decision over Yol-Woo Lee in Seoul, South Korea. Gonzalez successfully defended his crown last December

World Cup final stadium fails to meet safety norms

ROME (R) — Rome's Olympic stadium, where the World Cup final will be played, does not comply fully with safety standards, Italy's interior ministry said Tuesday.

But it said Interior Minister Antonio Gava had granted special dispensation so the stadium, rebuilt in a rush for the World Cup at cost of \$140 million, could be used during the month-long soccer tournament starting Friday.

A spokesman confirmed a report in the Communist Party newspaper *l'Unità* which said ministry inspectors had found several aspects of the 80,000-seat stadium's design fell short of legal safety requirements.

These included emergency access tunnels below the legal minimum height for fire engines, inadequate escape routes for spectators and terracing of irregular height and width.

ROME (R) — Twenty-three World Cup referees who failed tough fitness tests in March passed at the second attempt in Rome Monday, FIFA said.

FIFA's General Secretary Sepp Blatter said all 36 official tournament referees had now passed the demanding physical tests, designed to ensure they can keep up with play.

Joao Havelange, president of the sport's governing body, last week threatened to send home referees who failed the test a second time.

"They got the message," Blatter said. "They were much better prepared. Some of them had lost a few kilos and they looked much better. This is a professional sport and it's not good to see real athletes playing on the field while the referees have large bellies."

FIFA, who have introduced a tough campaign to clean up foul play, have brought in referees' fitness tests for the first time at the 1990 finals.

Blatter said match officials were given a course Sunday to ensure

"If a dangerous situation were to occur and people had to flee they would not even be able to regulate their pace. Every terrace is a different height," trade unionist Bruno Raccio, a member of the ministry inspection team, told *l'Unità*.

A ministry statement, issued in response to the report, said Gava had approved a request from Italy's National Olympic Committee (CONI), the stadium's owners, for dispensation from the safety norms "limited to the staging of the World Cup."

The spokesman said the ministry was confident the shortcomings would not influence overall safety but that alterations would have to be made after the tournament.

"Where the tunnels are concerned, for example, the fire brigade would have to use smaller vehicles if there was a fire during the World Cup," the spokesman said.

The Olympic stadium will be used for six World Cup matches, including Italy's three group A first round games and the final on July 16.

The cost of roofing and virtually rebuilding the stadium for the tournament more than doubled from the original estimate and workers toiled round the clock to finish in time after delays caused by political disputes and environmental protests.

A CONI spokeswoman said the Olympic committee was satisfied that the stadium, inaugurated by Pope John Paul in front of a capacity crowd last Thursday, had been well built.

"There could be no better test that last week's inauguration," the spokeswoman said. "The only thing that counts for us is Gava's dispensation. Then we'll see after the World Cup what work has to be done."

Agassi beats Chang

PARIS (AP) — Andre Agassi, wearing one of his trademark outifts of hot pink, overpowered defending-champion Michael Chang in French Open quarterfinals Tuesday, beating his compatriot from the United States, 6-2, 6-1, 4-6, 6-2.

The third-seeded Agassi reached his fourth grand slam semifinal and his second in three years on a game of sheer power.

Two streaks — five consecutive games row in the first set and the last six in the second — put Agassi in a dominating position. He finished the match by breaking Chang with a sledgehammer backhand volley.

Agassi next plays the winner of the match between two unseeded players, wildcard Henri Leconte and Jonas Svensson, for a berth in his first grand slam final.

Top-ranked Steffi Graf shook off a mid-match charge by Conchita Martinez and reached the women's semifinals of her 14th consecutive grand slam tournament. Graf opened the day of six quarterfinals with a 6-1, 6-3 victory.

Monica Seles, the second seed and the hottest player in tennis, survived a scare to win her 30th consecutive match. She rallied from a 1-4 deficit in the third set to beat sixth-seeded Manuela Maleeva 3-6, 6-1, 7-5. Maleeva, who hit herself in the head with her racket on a second-set shot, was two points from victory at 5-4, 0-30, when Seles took off to win the final three games.

Jana Novotna played Katerina Maleeva, while Jennifer Capriati, the 14-year-old from the United States and the youngest grand slam quarterfinalist in history, played seventh-seeded Mary Joe Fernandez.

The Agassi-Chang matchup looked as if it would offer a close contest. Agassi quickly took charge but Chang made a late run before strength won out.

But the mini-victory took its toll. Chang was still chipping away at set, but often getting close yet too late as the fourth set continued. Agassi won the first three games at the loss of just four points. After Chang held at love, Agassi saved triple-break point on a half-volley and two winners, and held 4-1 as Chang made two errors.

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AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION

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NORTH

♦ K 8 5

♦ A Q J 9 4

♦ 7 5

♦ A Q 7

WEST

EAST

♦ 3 2

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♦ K 5 3

♦ K 4 2

The bidding:

North: East: South: West:

1 1 1 1

Pass: Pass: Pass: Pass

Opening lead: Ten of ♦

On this hand from a team match, South's winning line is poetry itself. That is not all that easy to spot is proved by the different results at the two tables.

Both teams reached four spades on identical auctions. Since North had considerably more than a minimum with good support for partner's suit, a jump to four spades was clearly warranted. Both Wests led the ten of diamonds and both Easts covered with the jack, conceding the first trick to declarer's King.

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Ethnic unrest rages in Soviet Central Asian town, 10 killed

MOSCOW (R) — Clashes between ethnic Uzbeks and Kirghiz raged in the Soviet Central Asian town of Osh Tuesday in serious ethnic unrest which has killed at least 10 people and injured over 200.

"The centre of Osh is controlled by police but clashes are going on in the suburbs, mainly between Kirghiz and Uzbeks," Felix Kulov, deputy interior minister of Kirghizia, told Reuters from the republic's capital Frunze.

On Monday, police fired into a crowd of thousands of ethnic Uzbeks who rampaged through Osh — which is in Kirghizia — burning down houses and trying to storm the police station.

The Uzbeks, who form a majority of the town's population, started rioting after a fierce argument with native Kirghiz over land allocation.

Kulov said a state of emergency had been imposed on the town and six neighbouring districts, adding that two of the dead were policemen.

The situation might get worse because people are trying to get to Osh from neighbouring regions, including riders on horseback... we do not have enough troops to control the whole area," he said.

The clashes are the latest in a wave of ethnic unrest which has swept through the Soviet Union's southern republics over the last two years, killing many hundreds.

Mulroney whittles down opposition to Quebec pact

OTTAWA (R) — Prime Minister Brian Mulroney whittled down opposition to granting Quebec special status within Canada and the other constitutional reforms was kept alive by two transnational provinces.

A buoyant Mulroney, emboldened by a change of heart by the New Brunswick premier, told reporters that new federal proposals aimed at breaking the constitutional deadlock won enough support to merit more discussions Tuesday.

"I think we did make some progress in there," Mulroney said after a four-hour evening meeting. "But it's tough going."

The Meech Lake Agreement, which must be passed by June 23, would bring French-speaking Quebec into the 1982 constitution — which it has refused to endorse — and recognise the province as a distinct society.

English-speaking Canada faces a growing threat of separation in Quebec over the impasse.

The Atlantic province of New Brunswick, one of the key hold-outs, said its endorsement hinged on assurances that reform of the national Senate would be dealt with in a timely fashion.

"In substance it meets most or all of the concerns of New Brunswick," McKenna said. "We're into a tough, tough, piece of work."

S. African police disperse protesters; raze shacks

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South African police said they fired shotguns and teargas to disperse black protesters who attacked municipal staff demolishing squatter shacks east of Johannesburg.

Black community organisations said up to 20 people were wounded in the clash Monday, at least two of them seriously. A council official said 15 people were arrested.

Dozens of blacks assaulted council workers who used a bulldozer to flatten 400 out of the 35,000 shacks in the Phola Park squatter camp near the white town of Alberton, newspapers said Tuesday.

Police said they fired shotguns at blacks who stoned and set fire to police and municipal vehicles after the demolition began shortly after dawn.

"When they saw the community gathered, the police saw as an illegal gathering and fired into the crowd," Phola Park Residents Committee Vice-President Prince Mhlambi told the newspaper Business Day.

Alberton Town Council said the razed shacks were occupying a council sports field. The occupants had been ordered to leave.

Squatter camps have grown following an influx of blacks to urban areas which accelerated when the government abolished apartheid laws restricting blacks' movements in the mid-1980s. Some are demolished regularly, causing sporadic violence.

In Komga township in Cape province, a group of blacks killed two people by placing petrol-

The Soviet News Agency TASS said the original argument in Osh Monday was sparked by a dispute between the two communities over plots of land near the city.

"Without permission, a group of Kirghiz, worried about being provided with new housing which is scarce in the region, occupied the plots to put up houses. Uzbeks demanded they also be allotted plots of land," it said.

Arguments over land allocation are common in Soviet Central Asia, but are usually linked to mismanagement of soil and water resources, which have created a growing ecological disaster.

In July 1989 thousands of villagers fought pitched battles on the border between Kirghizia and Tajikistan over land and water rights.

Elsewhere in Soviet Union, the Communist Party chief of the Ukraine was elected the republic's president Monday over protests from the parliamentary opposition and thousands of demonstrators, local activists reported.

Volodymyr Ivashko, a protege of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, gained 60 per cent of the votes in the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet parliament, according to RUKH Press International, an arm of the nationalist Ukrainian People's Front known by the acronym RUKH.

"The worst would have been if Mikhail Gorbachev came out with the impression that everything he is doing vis-a-vis Lithuania is permitted," Landsbergis said in the interview, a transcript of which was provided in English to the Associated Press.

Landsbergis said he hoped Gorbachev would "thoroughly review" the Lithuania situation upon his return.

Thousands of protesters gathered outside the parliament building Monday in the Ukrainian capital of Kiev and chanted "Ivashko out" and "shame on Communists," the report said.

Also Monday, Lithuanian President Vytautas Landsbergis said he hoped Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev would soften his stance toward the breakaway Baltic state after returning from the Washington summit.

But Landsbergis added in an interview with the Voice of America radio that he did not hear any encouraging words from Gorbachev during the summit meeting with U.S. President George Bush.

"The Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) human rights meeting is part of the follow-up process to the 1975 Helsinki Accords which laid down guidelines for East-West cooperation on security, economics and human rights.

"This year in Copenhagen, we can reap a rich reward of the European revolution of 1989," Ellermann-Jensen said.

Foreign ministers of most of the 35 CSCE signatories, including all European states except Albania plus the United States and Canada, are attending the meeting.

The meeting will also provide a forum for talks about the future security status of a united Germany.

U.S. Secretary of State James Baker on arrival at the conference centre crossed the main meeting hall to shake hands with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

The two men will meet later after separate meetings with West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

Ellermann-Jensen said in his speech the ministers would decide to set up a committee to plan a CSCE summit which is likely to be held in Paris.

As Baker arrived, about 150 demonstrators against anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union and in favour of the Kurdish minority in Turkey and Macedonians in the Balkans, kept up a noisy but peaceful protest.

The Soviet Union has been a staunch supporter of North Korea's Kim Il-Sung, who has led the country since the peninsula was divided by the two superpowers at the end of World War II.

North Korea reacted with

alarm to its southern neighbour's rapidly warming relations with the Eastern Bloc, withdrawing at least one ambassador from that area.

Roh said his meeting with Gorbachev was aimed at creating more stable relationship between the two Koreas that could lead eventually to reunification of 70 million Koreans in the divided peninsula.

He said he and Gorbachev had agreed their senior ministers would continue talks on achieving diplomatic relations and reunification.

Gorbachev, who declined to participate in the news conference, made only a general remark after his one-hour meeting with Roh, referring to the Soviet Union's wish to improve relations with all Pacific rim nations.

"We must improve relations with everyone who lives there. We can do it so easily," he said.

Gorbachev did not specifically mention South Korea and a short time later left San Francisco for Moscow.

"I think it's very good, I'm glad to hear it," he said.

Roh said he had asked Gorbachev to intercede directly with North Korea to end that country's "military posturing" and bring an end to the arms race on the Korean peninsula.

The Soviet Union supported and armed the North Korean forces which invaded the South in 1950, setting off the three-year-long Korean war involving China and a 16-nation United Nations force under U.S. command.

Roh said that "as a result of our meeting, normal bilateral relations will be established..." but he indicated that ties were not imminent. "Further steps will require more time but we are very hopeful," he said.

Roh said that the meeting with Gorbachev could also lead to stronger ties to China. "We expect our relations with China to further develop as time goes by," he said.

The residents of Rassello's native island, as well as his parishioners in Naples, are convinced the camorra framed him by forcing the boy to make false statements.

The protesters outside his house in Procida held up banners reading, "fight the camorra" and "Father Rassello is innocent."

'Ghost buster' held after cheque bounces

MADRID (R) — A psychologist who claims to have recorded ghostly laments in an empty Madrid palace was detained Monday after one of her cheques bounced, police said. A spokesman said Carmen de Sanchez Castro was held at Madrid police headquarters on a judge's order.

She said she would criticise Bush's decision last month to renew preferential tariffs to China, the so-called most favoured nation (MFN) status.

State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler protested Monday at the beating and harassment of journalists covering demonstrations in Peking Sunday to commemorate last year's massacre.

Foreign journalists in Peking protested to the Chinese government Tuesday against beatings and harassment by police that they said appeared to be designed to intimidate them and prevent news reporting.

U.S. to start destroying chemical arms

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States plans to begin destroying chemical weapons at a remote Pacific island late this year, well ahead of the schedule set in a treaty signed at last week's superpower summit, officials said.

Both nations accuse each of inciting ethnic and religious violence in each other's territory. India claims Pakistan trains and supports secessionists in the border states of Kashmir and Punjab. Islamabad accuses India of partial responsibility for widespread ethnic violence in Sind province.

Both countries have moved their armies closer to their shared border.

Residents of Harbel, the company town, said vehicles flying the red rebel flag and guerrillas wearing the red handbands of the rebels had moved onto the eastern part of the plantation, which is a refusal by the rest of Canada to recognise Quebec's French nature.

The 24-hy 32-kilometre plantation is owned by Bridgestone-Firestone Inc., a U.S. subsidiary of the Japanese company Bridgestone Corp. It contains 75,000 people — 8,400 are employees and the rest dependents — and has been swollen by up to 10,000 refugees from the fighting.

Plantation sources said some workers left their posts as the rebels approached.

An official of the corporate parent in Tokyo said family members of the plantation's 30 foreign staffers were evacuated within three weeks ago.

As the rebels moved Monday on the U.S.-managed rubber plantation, the world's largest, they surrounded its factory, 1.6 kilometres from the airport. The airport is 56 kilometres southeast of the capital.

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